

[10537/105]

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s) : Alexander SAGEL et al.  
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For : WEAR-RESISTANT LAYER  
Examiner : Jennifer C. McNeil  
Art Unit : 1775

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Date: September 9, 2003 Reg. No. 22,490

Signature: Richard L. Mayer  
Richard L. Mayer

**AMENDMENT**

S I R:

In response to the Office Action of May 9, 2003, kindly amend the above-captioned application as indicated on the following pages:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.